

chemical within a polymer matrix, wherein the improvement comprises the steps of:

- a. ensuring that said active chemical is blendable with said plasticizer;
- b. blending said active chemical with the plasticizer in a polymer matrix;
- c. ensuring that the level of plasticizer is below a level that would cause said active chemical to leach out of said polymer matrix, whereby said active chemical is retained within said polymer matrix.

7. The method as recited in claim 6, wherein said polymer comprises flexible polyvinylchloride.
8. The method as recited in claim 7, wherein said active chemical comprises denatonium benzoate (Bitrex).
9. The method as recited in claim 8, wherein said plasticizer comprises a member of the class of plasticizers nominally used in the manufacture of flexible polyvinylchloride and in an amount that would nominally be used in the manufacture of flexible polyvinylchloride.

Request for Constructive Assistance

The undersigned has made a diligent effort to define the claims of this application so that they define novel properties and are clearly distinguished from the Prior Art. If for any reason the claims of this application are not believed to be in full condition for allowance, applicant respectfully requests the constructive assistance and suggestions of the Examiner in drafting one or more acceptable claims pursuant to MPEP 707.07(j) or in making constructive suggestions pursuant to MPEP 706.03(d) in order that this application can be placed in allowable condition as soon as possible and without the need for further proceedings.